

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel claims 1-17 without prejudice or disclaimer, and substitute new claims 18-34 therefor as follows:

Claims 1-17 (Cancelled).

18. (New) An optical fiber cable comprising:
- a central strength member;
  - a number of loose tubes containing optical fibers; and
  - a protective outer jacket
- the filling coefficient of optical fibers in at least one loose tube being  $\geq 45\%$ ;
- the tubes comprising a material having an elasticity modulus  $\geq 700$  MPa;
- and
- the optical fibers having a microbending sensitivity  $\leq 4.0 \text{ dB} \cdot \text{km} / \text{g} \cdot \text{mm}^{-1}$  at a temperature about  $-30^\circ$  to  $+60^\circ\text{C}$  at about 1550 nm.
19. (New) The optical fiber cable according to claim 18, wherein the optical fibers are single mode or single mode reduced fibers.
20. (New) The optical fiber cable according to claim 18, wherein the loose tubes comprise a material having an elasticity modulus  $\geq 800$  MPa.
21. (New) The optical fiber cable according to claim 18, wherein the loose tubes comprise a material having an elasticity modulus  $\geq 1000$  MPa.
22. (New) The optical fiber cable according to claim 18 wherein the optical fibers comprise an inner coating layer of a material having an elastic modulus lower

than about 200 MPa when measured at -30°C and lower than about 2 MPa when measured at a temperature of about +20°C to +60°C.

23. (New) The optical fiber cable according to claim 22, wherein the optical fibers comprise an inner coating layer of a material having an elastic modulus lower than about 80 MPa when measured at about -30°C.

24. (New) The optical fiber cable according to claim 22, wherein the optical fibers comprise an inner coating layer of a material having an elastic modulus of about 20 to 60 MPa when measured at about -30°C.

25. (New) The optical fiber cable according to claim 18, wherein the optical fibers comprise a mass colored outer coating layer.

26. (New) The optical fiber cable according to claim 18, wherein the filling coefficient of optical fibers in at least one loose tube is  $\geq 50\%$ .

27. (New) The optical fiber cable according to claim 18, wherein the loose tubes are made of a material selected from polybutyleneterephthalate, high density polyethylene, medium density polyethylene and low density polyethylene.

28. (New) The optical fiber cable according to claim 18, wherein the loose tubes have an inner diameter  $\leq$  about 1.25 mm.

29. (New) The optical fiber cable according to claim 18, wherein the loose tubes have an inner diameter  $\leq$  about 1.20 mm.

30. (New) The optical fiber cable according to claim 18, wherein the optical fibers are colored and have an outer diameter of about 0.245 mm.

31. (New) The optical fiber cable according to claim 18, wherein the optical fiber cable has an external diameter of  $\leq$  about 7.0 mm with a number of optical fibers  $\geq$  72.

32. (New) The optical fiber cable according to claim 18, wherein the optical fiber cable has an external diameter of  $\leq$  about 6.0 mm with a number of optical fibers  $\geq$  72.

33. (New) The optical fiber cable according to claim 18 comprising an outer jacket made of a material selected from polyamide, high density polyethylene, medium density polyethylene and low density polyethylene.

34. (New) The optical cable according to claim 33, wherein the outer jacket is made of a graphite-charged Polyamide 12 compound.